



# MEDICINE HAT

ALBERTA, CANADA

OPPORTUNITY UNLIMITED  
IN THE GAS CITY OF THE WEST



# A Message from **THE MAYOR**

CABLE ADDRESS: GAS CITY CODE WESTERN UNION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



MEDICINE HAT ALBERTA

To those who are interested:

There are sound reasons why Medicine Hat is the chosen location for leading industries of the Prairie Provinces. Contributing factors to the steady growth of our city have been the availability of cheap natural gas for fuel and power and our central location as an ideal distributing point for Western Canada. Furthermore, our tax structure is such as to encourage the establishment of factory or residence in our city.

We invite inquiries from those interested in plant expansion. We are ready to co-operate with all those who see in Medicine Hat a comfortable place in which to establish a home.

Sincerely yours,

Mayor.

70.3.25/7



Canada's Gas City, Medicine Hat looks back on 65 years of progress and may look forward to many years of prosperity founded on the abundance of Natural Gas waiting beneath the soil of this little industrial city. Before the coming of the railroad in 1883 pioneer business men were trekking stocks of merchandise into the, at that time, tent town. With the coming of the railroad, lumber and building materials could be shipped in and at one time the 'Hat was larger than either Calgary or Edmonton. Ambitions of the pioneers were realized in 1899 when the settlement was incorporated as a town. Potential wealth associated with the discovery of Natural Gas on the townsite caused a boom and the incorporation of Medicine Hat as a city was accomplished in 1907 with Wm. Cousins becoming its first Mayor.

Rudyard Kipling's description of the city as "The City That Was Born Lucky" has been borne out in many ways. The location chosen by the pioneers proved to be a very lucky choice. Situated in a natural valley, the city covers over 10,000 acres of river flat and hillside. The South Saskatchewan river, three hundred yards wide at this point, flows eastward through the city providing an abundance of pure water for all purposes. The discovery of the great wealth of the city, Natural Gas, was made in 1883 by pure accident but the possibilities remained unexploited until 1905 when civic officials took the initiative and drilled to a depth of 1,010 feet, where the gas showed a pressure of 550 lbs. to the square inch. Large industries established in the city motivated by the promises of free natural gas, free building sites and taxation exemptions. Population figures rose to 10,000 which figure has remained more or less constant up to the beginning of World War Two. In the past seven years the number of residents has increased to about 13,000.

# The Legend of the Name

## "MEDICINE HAT"



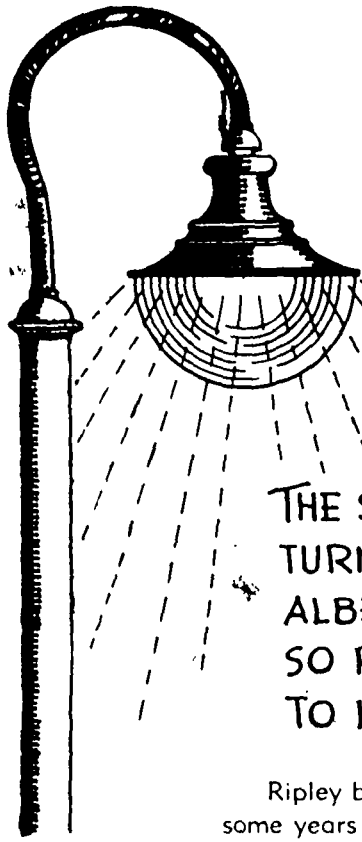
Medicine Hat—an odd and famous name—is in Indian legendry. The accepted tradition is that years before the coming of the white man, the Cree tribes, who roamed between here and Calgary, made an attack on their enemies, the Blackfeet.

The chief of the Crees had a lovely daughter, Wa-pa-soos. Among the chief lieutenants was the manly Kaus-ke-ta-o-pot, who wooed and won the fair Wa-pa-soos. The Crees set out upon their raid accompanied by their wives and children and after a strenuous march, arrived on the site of the present city of Medicine Hat. It was the dead of winter and the river was frozen over except at one spot which, doubtless due to undercurrents, had never been frozen, and the Crees believed that in this place dwelt the Great Serpent.

On arrival Kaus took his horse to drink at this spot, and while the pony drank, there was a great swirling of water and the Serpent reared his head above the river and spoke to him. If, said the Serpent, Kaus would bring his beloved bride, Wa-pa-soos, and hurl her into the river, he would direct Kaus to the secret hiding place of a charmed hat once used by a great Medicine Man; that the possession of the hat would enable Kaus to become the mightiest chief of all the Crees.

Sorely troubled, Kaus told all to the chief and to his lovely bride. Wa-pa-soos did not hesitate an instant. "Throw me to the Great Serpent," she cried, "so shall my husband become great." Kaus resisted, but his own ambitions and her entreaties proved too much for him and that evening he hurled Wa-pa-soos into the waters. The Serpent directed Kaus to the hidden Medicine Hat. That night the Blackfeet attacked the Crees, who were taken by surprise and temporarily driven back. However, by the aid of Kaus-ke-ta-o-pot's charmed hat the Crees were eventually victorious and from that time on this district has been known as Medicine Hat.





# Believe it or Not!

by RIPLEY

THE STREET LIGHTS ARE NEVER  
TURNED OUT IN MEDICINE HAT.  
ALBERTA --- NATURAL GAS IS  
SO PLENTIFUL THAT IT IS CHEAPER  
TO LET THEM BURN.

Ripley brought this fact to the attention of his readers some years ago and a visitor to the 'Hat will find it to be true. The reason for not turning off the lights during the daylight hours is, of course, that it is very much cheaper to let the lights burn all day than it would be to turn them off and relight them. Very few of these gaslights are used today as the system has been changed over to electricity, but a few are still in use on the outskirts of the city.

Medicine Hat residents are not affected by coal strikes or shortages. A drop in temperature creates no hardship for the householder. A simple turn of a valve on the gas-fueled furnace insures comfortable living regardless of the weather.

Medicine Hat's natural gas is noted for its purity. It is composed principally of Methane which comprises 92 to 95% of the volume the remainder of the gas being made up of the heavier hydro-carbons and air constituents. It is known as dry gas having insufficient moisture to cause any trouble in the pipes from condensation and freezing. Methane is known for the heat of its flame and next to hydrogen Methane has the highest power of all common gases. Free from moisture and containing 1,140 B.T.U.'s per cubic foot, Medicine Hat Gas has about 50% more heating power than artificial gas.

# Natural Resources

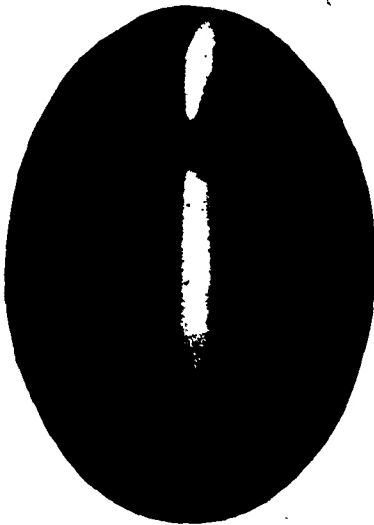


Medicine Hat's prosperity and the great future before the city is well founded. The potential wealth of the very ground upon which the city is built is a guarantee of continued and greater prosperity. Not only the natural gas which is to be found a thousand feet below any city block, but readily accessible coal, vast clay deposits and a layer of fertile soil will contribute to the successful operation of industry and the comfortable living of the people of this blessed community.

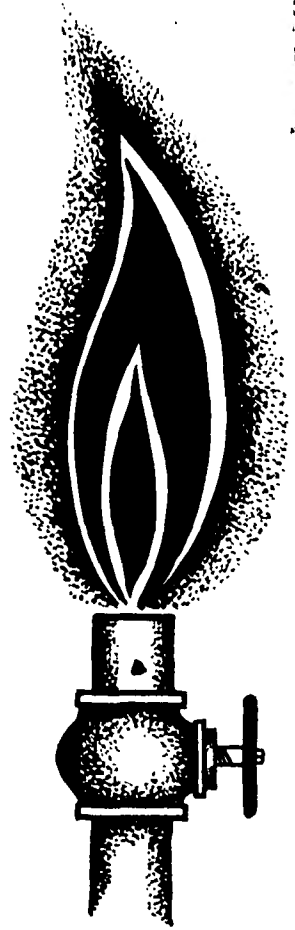
## COAL

Within the limits of the city that was "born lucky" and in the surrounding district are vast quantities of high grade lignite coal which is being mined and marketed at extremely low prices.

One mine operating within a few miles of the city has a capacity of 1,000 tons per day. Seams of good lignite coal are also found in many places throughout the district, furnishing valuable fuel conveniently situated for the settler. While most of the homes and industries in Medicine Hat use the inexpensive Natural Gas for fuel it is considered that this vast supply, estimated at seventy-seven million tons, which lies just outside of the city limits can be processed and add greatly to the potential wealth of the city.



Night Scene  
Blowing off a Gas Well in  
Medicine Hat



# Clay...

The cheap natural gas and its partner clay can take credit for a large part of the prosperity the city experiences. This partnership is responsible for the outstanding success of four large industries located in Medicine Hat. Great clay banks, enough, as one manufacturer expressed it, "to last for a million years," are readily accessible to these industries engaged in the manufacture of clay products. Banks of this fine clay will be found adjacent to many suitable industrial sites in the city. A large part of the freight originating in Medicine Hat is made up of various clay products. Brick and tile for building, sewer pipe and flue linings as well as crockery and table ware are Gas City products, created through the partnership of gas and clay along with cheap electrical power. Possibilities in the successful manufacture of clay products are limited only to the market as it is well known that production costs are far below those in any other plant location in Canada.

Digging from a Bank of Solid Clay in Medicine Hat





# ...Water

While the district's abundant supply of Natural Gas played a large part in building Medicine Hat into a thriving industrial centre, another factor contributed greatly to this success . . . water . . . water close at hand and plenty of it. Situated as it is on the banks of the South Saskatchewan river, the city takes its supply of pure water from this swiftly flowing, glacier fed stream. Ample supplies are available for household and industrial needs. The city-owned plant takes the water from a point about three miles above the city. Capacity of the plant is about eight million gallons every 24 hours. Pumping units in the plant are two-thirds electrically operated and one-third steam turbine driven, thereby being prepared for any eventuality. The city water is freed from impurities through chemical processes, filtered and chlorinated before entering the mains for distribution.

The city is also fortunate in being able to dispose of sewage at very little cost. Domestic and storm sewers empty into the river at a point well below the city. Various factors have contributed to the lowering of the water level of the river and the sewerage pumping stations, installed to take care of the system at high water periods, have not been used since 1928.

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Filter Room in the Power House



# *Power & Fuel to Spare*

## CITY-OWNED UTILITIES

provide the cheapest Gas, Water and Electric power.

### **Domestic Rates for Services:**

#### **WATER:**

Flat rate: For modern residence, 5 rooms and under, \$1.75 per month  
Each additional room - - - - - 15c per month

#### **GAS:**

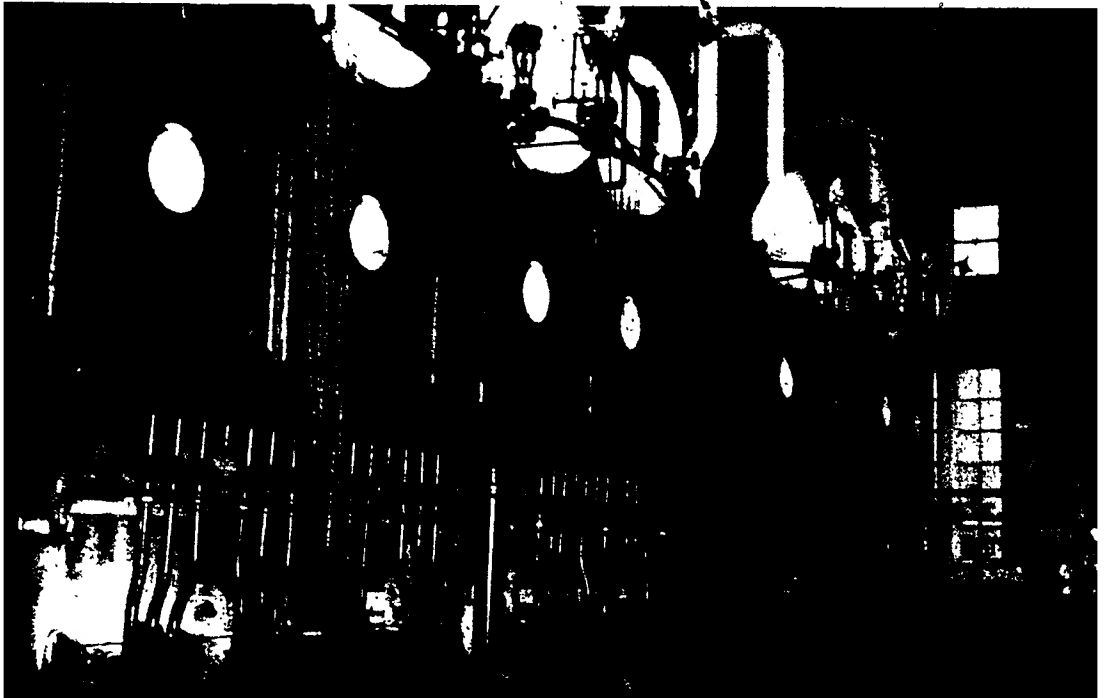
First 75 Thousand Cubic Feet per month - - 25 cents per M.  
Next 125 Thousand Cubic Feet per month - - 20 cents per M.  
Minimum Bill \$1.00 per month.

#### **ELECTRICITY:**

##### **Domestic Contract Combination:**

First 30 Kilowatt Hours - - - - - 6 cents per K.W.H.  
All over 30 K.W.H. - - - - - 1½ cents per K.W.H.  
Minimum Charge \$1.80.

**Natural Gas Fired Boilers at Power House**



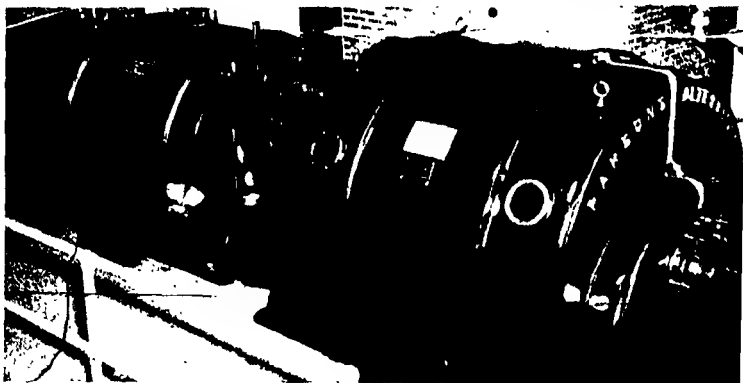
**City Owned  
Electric Plant  
and  
Distribution  
System**

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**Modern Turbo-  
Generators**

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## **Efficient Distribution . . . .**

The electric generating station supplying users of electric power in Medicine Hat and the neighboring town of Redcliff is owned and operated by the city of Medicine Hat. The power house is situated on the banks of the South Saskatchewan river just above the city. Necessary condensor water is readily available within a hundred yards of the plant. Plentiful supplies of Natural Gas for firing the boilers is available from a well a short distance from the plant. Modern steam turbo-generators supply electrical energy to the city's other utilities as well as to the industries and residences located in Medicine Hat and Redcliff.

**POWER RATES:**

**Residential . . . . . as low as 1½ cents per KWH**

**Industrial . . . by volume as low as .58 cents per KWH**

## *Industrial Sites*

Provision has been made for the establishment of industrial plants on land best suited to their needs, that is near the railroad and served by spur trackage. Most industrial locations are easily accessible to workers and the commercial centre of the city. Potteries and brick and tile manufacturers can be located close to an inexhaustible supply of suitable clay. Natural gas, water and sewerage as well as electric power is available on all sites which have been planned as locations for industrial expansion. The City Fathers have adopted a very generous attitude as far as helping new industries in the city and those interested in plant expansion can be sure of the utmost co-operation on the part of civic officials. Building locations for manufacturers vary in size from a few lots to several acres and are, as noted above, served with all city owned services. Recently the city purchased buildings from the Federal Government which are on the site of the former Flying School and the Prisoner of War camp, both of which are located within three miles of the city. Some of these buildings are suitable for re-modeling for many purposes and may be purchased from the city at very low costs.



## *Residential Lots*

During the war years and since, Medicine Hat has expanded rapidly in population, due no doubt, to the numbers of retiring farmers and young veterans who seek a comfortable place in which to live. The climate and the availability of Natural Gas are to a great degree the deciding factors. Many have taken up building lots and have built fine homes. Choice building lots in nice neighborhoods may be had for a fraction of their assessed value. All lots are serviced by the city with gas, electricity, water and sewerage. The city operates the garbage disposal system with modern trucks and loaders. Considerable progress has been made by the city council towards adopting a plan for future construction in the city which will protect property values and insure that all residential building will be in line with modern trends. Detailed information on building lots may be had from the City Assessor at the City Hall.



Top picture: Success Automatic Land Leveller Plant.

Middle picture: Laboratory Worker, Maple Leaf Milling Co.

Bottom: Packing Floor, Maple Leaf Mill.

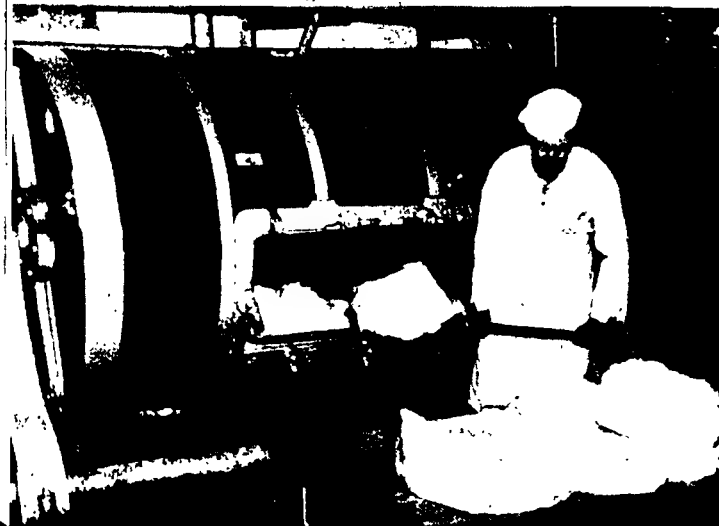


**Bush  
MED**

Loading Linseed Oil  
Press  
Alberta Linseed Oil  
Company Ltd.

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Pouring the Iron  
Alberta Foundry &  
Machine Co. Ltd.



Butter Making  
Crystal Dairy Ltd.

# ICINE HAT!



Seed Cleaning  
Grimm Alfalfa Seed  
Growers

★ ★ ★

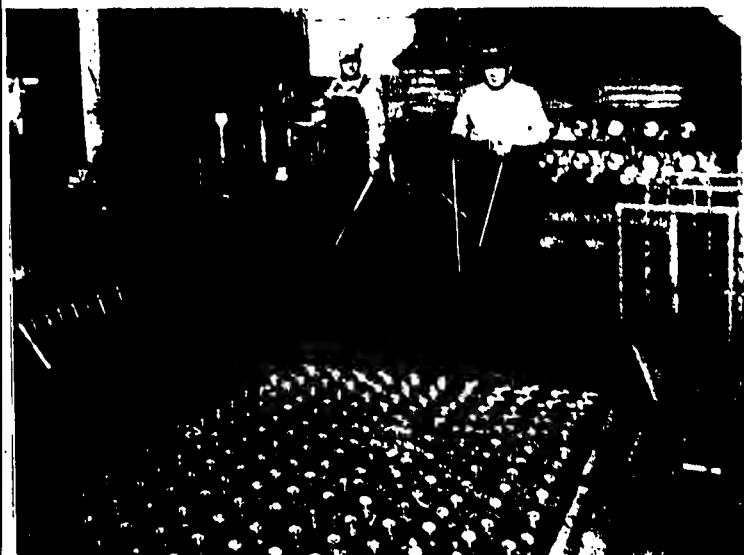
Welding on Soil  
Mover

Success Automatic  
Land Leveller Com-  
pany Limited



Pressing Building Tile  
Medicine Hat Brick  
and Tile Co. Ltd.





Shell Making World  
War Two

Shown on this page are interior views of the Alberta Foundry and Machine Company Limited. Founded in 1911, this organization has been carrying on a regular engineering business in repairs and improvements in the different manufacturing plants in Medicine Hat and Redcliff. During both wars the plant was very proud of its record in turning out shells and casings. The company now has resumed its peacetime production of farm implements and spare parts for farm machinery as well as all types of iron, brass and aluminum castings.



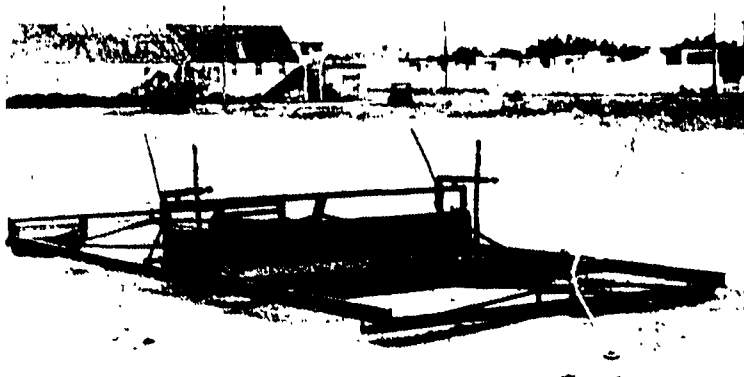
First Cupola Furnace  
West of Winnipeg

★ ★ ★

Shell Cases in Process  
of Manufacture







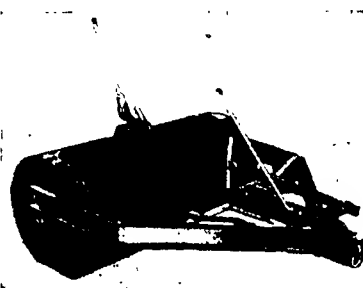
**"Success" Automatic  
Land Leveller for in-  
creased production on  
irrigated lands**

## Success Automatic Land Leveller Co.

Medicine Hat, Alberta

One of the new industries in Medicine Hat, owned and operated by a local company. The entire Canadian patents are owned by the company.

The Land Leveller is used to smooth and level the land for irrigation.

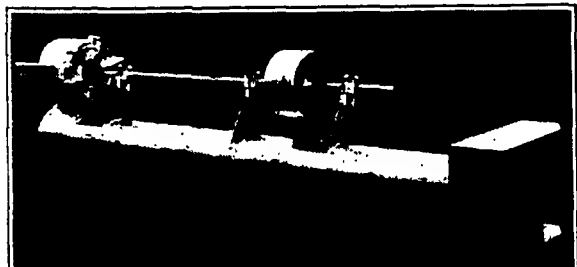


**"Success" Soil Movers**

Another product of this company is the Rotary Soil Mover, which is used to move soil, and build dug-outs and dams.

Success ditchers are used for making irrigation ditches.

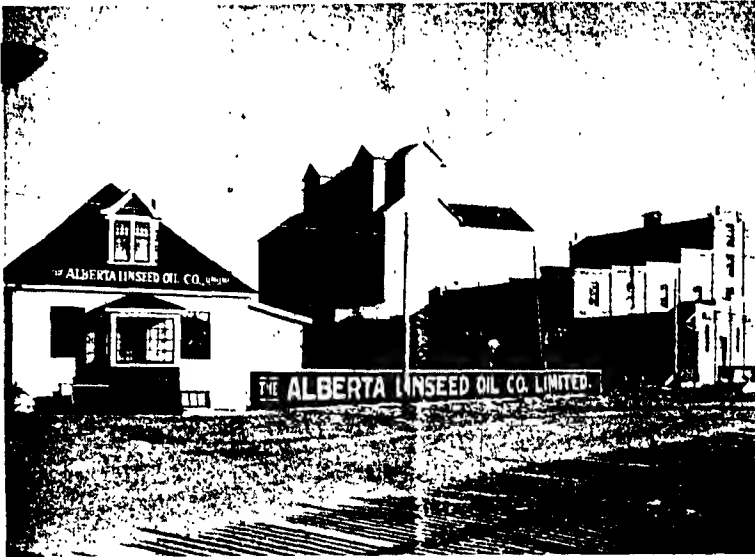
All these machines are primarily for the use of the farmers in this district to conserve or utilize more economically, the water that otherwise runs off in the spring, and thus helps to increase crop yields in the district.



**"Success" Double Impeller Pump  
for irrigation**

# Milling Centre

Medicine Hat is the leading milling centre of Western Canada. That hasn't just occurred. There are many sound reasons why this city has been chosen by leading industrialists. No other city has the same close rail connection with the wheat growing areas of the west to offer millers and manufacturers of wheat products. And, the tax structure is such as to encourage manufacturers to establish factories and, considering the favorable financial position of the city, a downward trend in the present low rate is anticipated.



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Office and Plant  
Alberta Linseed  
Company Limited.

Manufacturers of  
Alox Products  
Linseed Oil, Meal  
and Oil Cake.

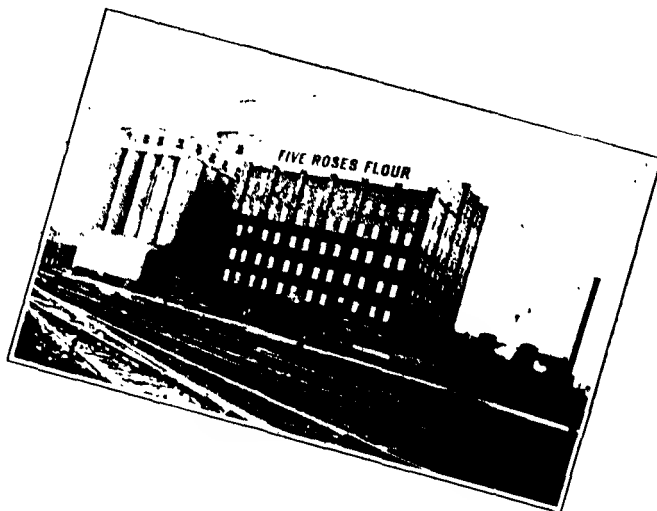
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Public ownership of the great natural gas resources with its consequently economic production of electric power has been a big factor in the establishment of these industries. Three large national organizations and one locally operated mill are engaged in the milling industry in Medicine Hat. All mills are operating at capacity, producing somewhat over 5,000 barrels of flour per day as well as breakfast cereals and animal feeds. Flax produced in the district and the flax growing areas of nearby Saskatchewan provides the raw material for the production of linseed oil and other flax seed by-products. Oil seed extraction is carried on by one plant which is now being expanded to approximately double its previous capacity production. The milling industry is important to the economic welfare of the city in that its steady year round production provides employment for more than 600 people of the city.

# *of the West*

Home of Five Roses  
Flour

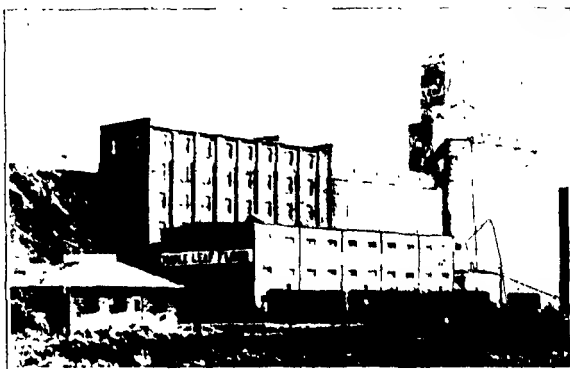
Lake of the Woods  
Milling Co. Ltd.



★ ★ ★

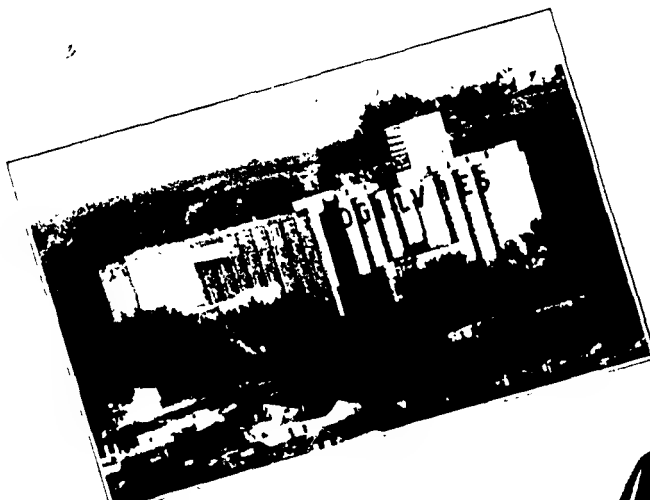
Manufacturers of  
Cream of the West  
Flour

Maple Leaf Milling  
Company Ltd.



★ ★ ★

Ogilvie's Royal  
Household Flour  
Ogilvie Flour Mills  
Co. Limited



Scenes in the  
Flour Milling  
Plant of the  
Ogilvie Flour  
Mills Co., Ltd.

★ ★ ★

Right:  
Packing "Royal  
Household" Flour.



O  
G  
I  
L  
V  
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E



Above:  
Grinding Floor.

★ ★ ★

Right:  
Sifter Floor.



# The Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., Limited



Towards the end of the 18th century, a middle-aged gentleman farmer in Scotland, named Archibald Ogilvie, decided to seek his further fortune in Canada. In 1800, after a voyage of some thirteen weeks, he landed in Quebec, with his wife and three sons, and settled down to the life of a pioneer farmer in his adopted country. One of his sons, Alexander, had other ideas. In 1801, he built a small flour mill at Jacques Cartier, Quebec. It is worth recording, that from this small mill, the first shipment of flour milled under British rule, was exported to Europe.



Today, from this almost obscure origin, the firm of Ogilvie has grown into the internationally known and respected "THE OGILVIE FLOUR MILLS CO., LIMITED", owning and operating a chain of flour mills across Canada.



The Ogilvie plant at Medicine Hat, construction of which started in 1912, and whose operation commenced in 1913, has been one of the all important cogs in the wheels of industry in Medicine Hat. It is now electrically operated and is the largest flour mill in the city.



The mill elevator has capacity for approximately 400,000 bushels, and draws grain from 40,000 square miles of territory.



The cleaning section with its endless cleaning and washing machines, together with recent improvements, provides the cleanest of wheat for the mill.



The daily output of this mill is 2,400 barrels of flour exclusive of the various mill feeds. There is also a MIRACLE Feeds mill adjoining, providing a feed for every need, and further adding to our long line of outstanding products.



To run this modern, efficient, up-to-date plant, there is a staff of 160 mill and office employees.



Welcome visitors will enjoy a trip through our plant, and after inspection, will agree with our slogan—

"IF IT'S OGILVIE — IT'S GOOD"



# Gas City Products

MEDICINE HAT



ALBERTA CLAY PRODUCTS CO. LTD.

POTTERY

MEDICINE  
POTTERY



RANGE  
NSES



ALBERTA LINSEED OIL CO., LIMITED

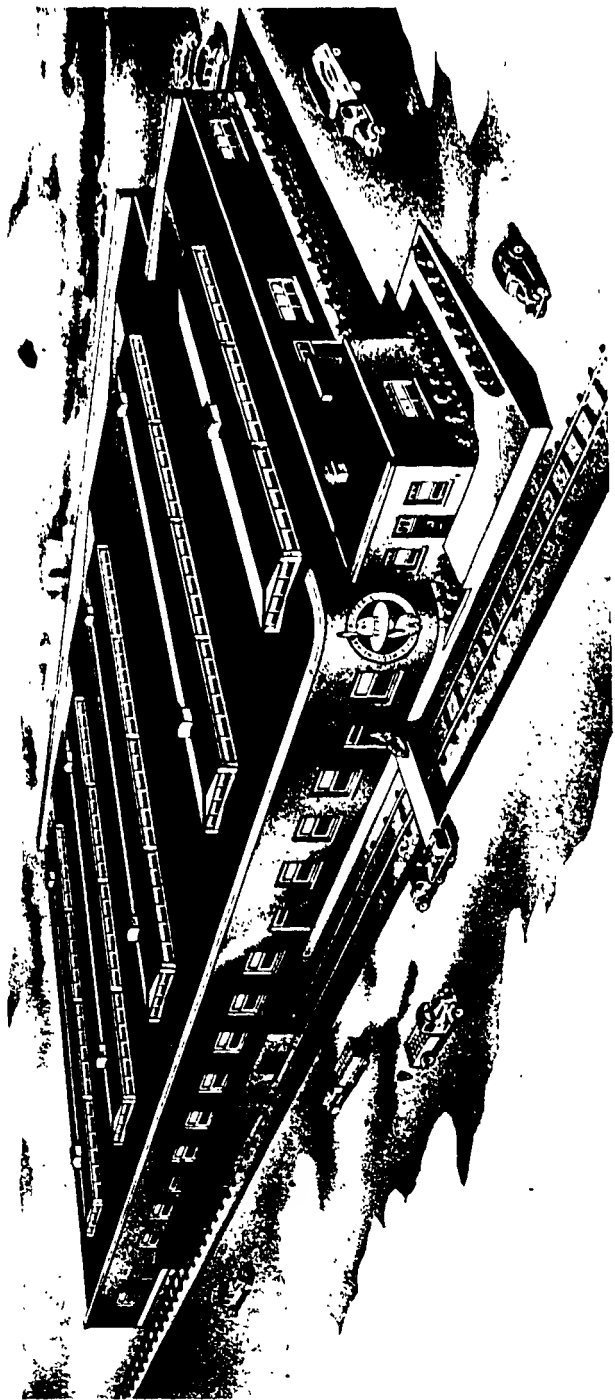
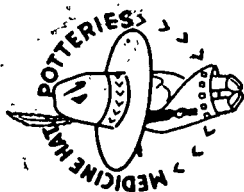


ALBERTA  
CLAY  
PRODUCTS

ALBERTA CLAY PRODUCTS  
Company  Limited



# View of Medicine Hat Potteries



*Interior Views of  
Medicine Hat Potteries*





# Alberta Clay Products Co. Limited

Burnt clay has been the standard building material for ages, and every indication so far shows that it will continue to remain so despite the effort that has been put forth to find a suitable substitute. All clay used is found locally.

A fine quality of Vitriified Salt-Glazed Sewer Pipe and Fittings is manufactured. They are round, smooth, straight, well finished, thoroughly vitrified, good color, unexcelled for strength of body and are suitable for sanitary sewers, railroad and road culverts, well curbing and other work requiring pipe of great strength. Fire Clay Flue Lining, Wall Coping, Building Blocks, Fireproofing, Drain Tile, Face and Common Brick is also manufactured.



Pottery making, or to use the scientific term, ceramics, one of the oldest industries in the history of man, is comparatively new in Canada. Yet today there appears in almost every home across the Dominion beautiful ware bearing the trademark of the Medicine Hat Potteries. Experienced ceramists and skilled workmen are producing pottery in a modern up-to-date plant in Medicine Hat, Alberta, using Canadian clays. These products are distributed to every point in Canada from Halifax to Vancouver.

The clay used comes from southern Saskatchewan. It is first crushed very fine and mixed with hot water to form a heavy liquid. While still in the liquid state it is finely screened to remove all impurities and surplus water is squeezed out. Before going to the potter's wheel, however, it must go through another operation. It is fed into a pug mill, which looks very much like a huge meat grinder. This machine removes, by vacuum process, all air pockets. From this machine it emerges in a large roll and is ready for the potter's wheel.

Each article requires a plaster of Paris mould to retain the plastic clay during the shaping on the wheel and as the article must dry in this mould a great number of these are used. Into the revolving mould the jiggerman places a quantity of clay and a bar or profile shapes the article and determines the thickness of the wall.

The ware is carried through the kilns on cars running on a narrow gauge track. Power for the drawing of the continuous line of cars is provided by oil under pressure. To make the complete circuit of 190 feet takes 32 to 64 hours, depending on the type of article being fired.

The ware is now ready to be dipped in glaze of the desired color and again run through the kiln. Glazes are of a mineral base and several minerals used are distinctly Canadian.

The ware when taken from the last firing has a smooth glossy coat which in many cases will withstand oven temperatures. The firing of the glaze coat is done at from 1950 to 2500 degrees Fahrenheit, depending on the color and the desired hardness required.



*Alberta Clay Products Co. Ltd.*



*Alberta Clay Products Co. Ltd.*





AERIAL VIEW OF ALBERTA CLAY PRODUCTS CO. LTD.



### THE MEDICINE HAT BRICK & TILE CO. LTD.

The factory of the Medicine Hat Brick & Tile Company Limited is situated in the city of Medicine Hat, Alberta, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and occupies fifty acres of land.

Brick making has been carried on in this site upwards of forty years.

The Company owns its own clay deposits which are on the premises. A clay bank rising one hundred and fifty feet at the back of the plant supplies all the raw material. It has been estimated to contain over thirteen million tons of clay.

The factory buildings are built against the face of the clay bank, and are distinctly modern, and are so planned as to eliminate all lost motion in the various processes of manufacture, each step proceeding forward from the time the raw clay enters the grinding room to the finished material loaded on railroad cars ready for shipment. The buildings comprise the grinding room, manufacturing room where the brick and hollow tile are made, drying tunnels, machine shop kilns. The manufacture of hollow Building Tile has been featured and enlarged to the point where it is now the most important product of the factory.

Automatic Spinning  
Press making Soup  
Bowls

★ ★ ★



○ ○

Interior Views

## Medalta Potteries

LIMITED

Makers of

Hotel China, Earthenware and Stoneware

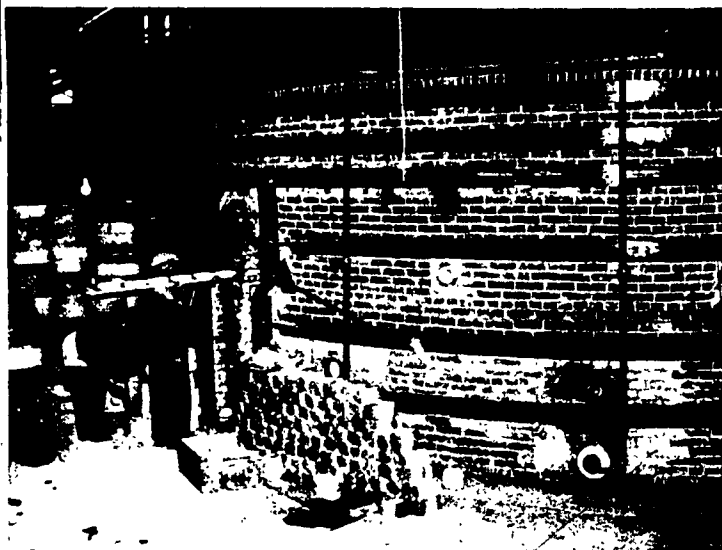
○ ○



Largest item made,  
50-gallon Crock

★ ★ ★

Loading Kiln for  
Firing



Checking "Brown  
Betty" Teapots



Display of items made  
by Medalta



Putting Green Band  
on a Teacup







# *Communications*

## **RAIL**

Located as it is, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, Medicine Hat offers speedy handling of freight and express as well as passenger traffic east and west. A divisional point of the C.P.R., the city also serves as a junction for the Crow's Nest Pass line of the C.P.R. and has connections with the Soo line of the same system. Spur sidings are provided in the industrial areas and the freight sheds and the local transfer services are well equipped to handle all shipments.

## **ROAD**

The city serves as a terminal for the east and west trans-Canada mainline buses as well as those through the Crow's Nest Pass and South. Local bus lines operate between nearby towns.

The city is well served by truck lines on the main run east and west as well as direct daily runs between the city and the principal cities of the province.

## **AIR**

Daily flights to the east and west are scheduled by Trans-Canada Airlines. DC-3's will be used on the inter-city runs. A local air service is available for charter flights to the nearby cities and the surrounding hunting and fishing areas. Airport facilities are owned by the city and hangar space for private planes is expected to be available shortly.

## **TELEGRAPH and TELEPHONE**

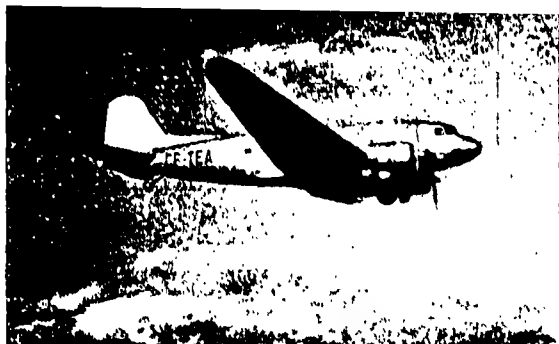
Canadian Pacific Telegraphs provide communication between all parts of Canada and the United States by wire and by cable to all parts of the world.

Alberta Government Telephone system provides the city homes and industries with an automatic exchange as well as telephone service within the province and through its long distance connections communication with the Trans-Canada Telephone system.

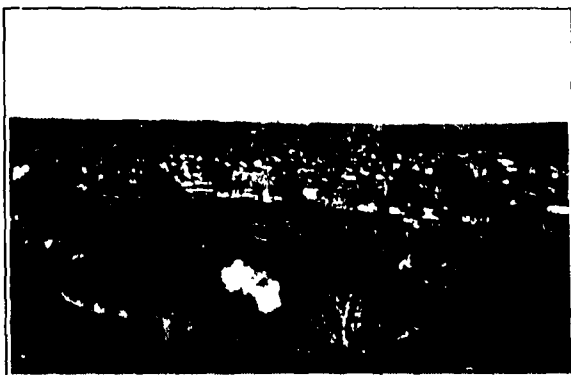
## **RADIO**

The Monarch Broadcasting Company, operating radio station CHAT, a 1000 watt transmitter, provides programs of local interest as well as national broadcasts to the city and district.

D.C.-3 Used by Trans-Canada  
Air Lines



Round House and Railway  
Yards, C.P.R.



Canadian Pacific Railway  
Station



Greyhound Bus Lines Terminal



## Soil ...

Not to be outdone by the wealth contained in the various strata beneath the earth's surface, a very rich layer of top soil contributes to the prosperity and enjoyment of living in this city. The rich, brown, sandy loam produces an abundance of vegetation. Rapid growth, induced by the maximum of summer sunshine, insures bumper harvests of the many garden crops that can be sown in this fertile soil.

Medicine Hat is a city of trees and gardens. Residents take pride in cultivating lawns and flower gardens which are unsurpassed in any other prairie city. Almost all householders have a truck garden at the rear of their homes and it is a well known fact that the average 50-foot lot will produce enough small fruits and vegetables to do a family of four for most of the year.

Garden crops are not confined to the ordinary fruits and vegetables but the soil and climate seem suitable for many sub-tropical plants. Such fruits as strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, grapes, crab-apples, plums, apples, canteloupe and watermelon are grown in quantities for family use and for the market. Large market gardens produce great quantities of seasonable vegetables for shipment all over Canada. Hundreds of dozens of Early Sweet Corn are shipped to cities in the west long before corn from other areas appears on the market.

Market Garden in Medicine Hat



A Bountiful Harvest of Melons



The climate and soil seem particularly suited to the commercial growing of onions, over a thousand tons of which are shipped each year by the market gardeners. All the gardens in the city limits are watered from the city mains as the annual precipitation is only 12.97 inches (average over 52 years). Large market gardens located on the river flats a short distance below the city, are irrigated by their owners with water pumped from the river directly on the land.



## *Greenhouse Production . . . .*

21 acres under glass.

Total production estimated at 1½ million dollars.

Approx. \$600,000 in flowers (of the above).

15,000 cases of hothouse tomatoes.

12,000 cases of hothouse cucumbers.



A large and lovely assortment of flowers is grown under glass in Medicine Hat and shipped as far as Vancouver in the west and Fort William in the east. Roses and carnations in all their multitudinous colors are cut nearly the whole year round. The holiday flowers, such as mums, and spray mums for Christmas, and snaps, stocks, tulips and daffodils for Easter are produced in great quantities. Potted plants form another large domestic and export item, among which are found Boston ferns, fuschia, cyclamen, azaleas, primula, Xmas cactus, cineraria and hydrangeas.

As well as the amount they ship directly from their hothouses as mature vegetables or flowers, many of the greenhouses are engaged in the growing of setting out or bedding plants which many bring to maturity in truck gardens operated by the greenhouses. A good example of this activity is shown in the amounts of cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce and celery approximately about 1,000 tons of which go out of the city each year.

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**A Typical Garden Scene in Medicine Hat**





Medicine Hat grown  
Corn stored in local  
food lockers



The manufacture of dairy products in Medicine Hat has grown with the development of the city and the surrounding agricultural district. During the intervening years butter has been manufactured for the local and outside markets and ice cream and fluid milk and cream has been processed and sold in the city and neighboring towns.

The income received by farmers from the sale of milk and cream has made an important contribution and helped to provide stability to the business life of the district. It is estimated that returns to farmers annually for dairy produce would approximate \$250,000. The processing and distribution of dairy products gives steady employment to about 35 persons.

Bee keeping for the production of honey has also become a profitable and interesting industry in Medicine Hat. A large number of local residents have arranged all their available garden space to the building up of numerous colonies into good sized apiaries.

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#### Honey Production in Medicine Hat





# Agriculture



Medicine Hat is surrounded by an area that produces large and diversified crops. These include wheat, oats, flax, barley, alfalfa, peas, beans, potatoes, tomatoes, corn, onions, and a host of other produce.

The district is noted for having the longest frost-free period in Western Canada, and this undoubtedly contributes to the quality and yield of many of the crops grown.

Development has mainly evolved around a wheat economy. Although limited precipitation has curtailed expansive mixed farming in the immediate district, private irrigation projects adjacent to the South Saskatchewan river have enabled some farmers to diversify their crops. Yields on these farms are particularly high.

The 40,000 acres of farm land contributory to the elevators in Medicine Hat produce from one-half to one million bushels of grain a year. Although wheat averages fluctuate with the amount of yearly precipitation, large farms, equipped with power machines have helped to increase the amount of wheat raised in the district.

Farm homes in the district have been greatly improved in recent years, with many farms having their own electric plants, and some even, operating their own gas wells for power and heat. Shelter belts and orchards are continually being developed.

As a result of this vast agricultural industry, together with the local industries in the city, more diversified freight originates in Medicine Hat than in any other point in Alberta or Saskatchewan.

Much of the agriculture land of the area holds a great future. The soils are suitable for irrigation, and from surveys conducted, it has been found possible to bring water to them. Opportunities for a more stabilized agricultural economy lie ahead in the development of these vast resources.



Threshing Wheat in the Medicine Hat District





Cattle Round-up

## RANCHING

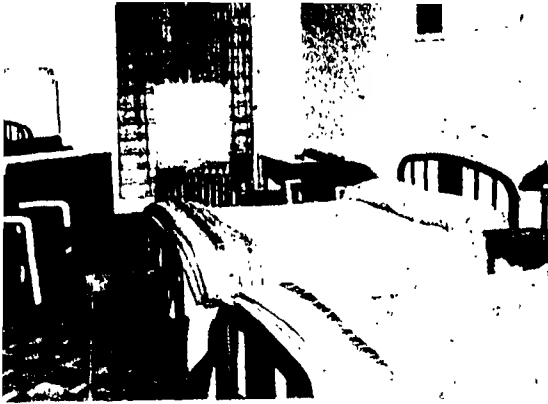
Typical Western Scene

This early and colorful industry still retains an enviable place in the area surrounding Medicine Hat. Cattle and sheep ranches may be found in any direction from the city and occupy those lands which are unsuitable for cultivation. The short-grass cover of their ranges is exceptionally nutritious. Every year thousands of lambs and cattle are marketed from them.

Since the early days of the cattle industry a great improvement in the quality and type has been noted, until today, the majority of the cattle on these ranges are fine Herefords. There are, too, a few herds of the top quality Short-horns and Aberdeen Angus cattle.

The industry here provides a permanency and standard of living for those engaged in it equal to that of any other district on the continent.





**Up-to-date Hotel Accommodation**

## **TOURIST ACCOMMODATION**

**and interesting spots to visit**

**Tourist Camps:** Maple Leaf Auto Camp (trailer parking facilities); Riverside Auto Court, Brookwood Auto Court.

**Hotels:** Cosmopolitan, Corona, Cecil, Royal.

**Automobile Service:** There are four Motor Association

Garages in Medicine Hat fully equipped to carry out any kind of repair or overhaul, etc. — Central Motors, Beny Motors, Gardner Motors, Dempster Motors—and numerous other well equipped Garages and Service Stations.

In the city itself there are several shady parks well back from the travelled thoroughfares where children can be left while parents do their shopping in an up-to-date shopping district. There are also two of the best swimming pools in the west for tired travellers to refresh and enjoy themselves in.

There are many large prehistoric formations, known locally as the "Petrified Coulees" which are well worth a visit and where it is possible to pick up petrified portions of prehistoric trees and dinosaur bones. One also is able to find Indian flint arrowheads and battle weapons in many places surrounding the city.

One of the most interesting places on the continent is the geological formation, far older than the Rocky Mountains, known as the Cypress Hills. In these hills can be seen all kinds of wild life such as beaver, deer, etc. There are some of the most scenic drives in these hills, one of which takes one to the home of Canada's famous Mounted Police or "Redcoats," Fort Walsh. These Cypress Hills are the cradle of Canadian prairie history.

**A Modern Dining  
Room**





# Education

## MEDICINE HAT SCHOOLS SECOND TO NONE IN THE WEST

One of the most impressive facts evidencing Medicine Hat's growth from a town to a city is the development of the local educational system. The schools of the city make ample provision for all that is modern in the way of the education of children—for special forms of Primary education, in the Kindergarten grade; for Elementary and advanced Manual Training; for Domestic Science; for Commercial Work; for Drawing and Art Work; for Music; for Medical Inspection and Physical Training. School accommodation is provided in large, permanent school buildings of pleasing architecture and good location, well-planned and well-equipped for all phases of modern education.

A well chosen staff of 85 teachers meets the educational requirements of a progressive management. Those in charge of the departments of school work are exceptionally well qualified teachers, capable of giving superior service in the class room. The administration of school affairs is thoroughly systematized. Efficiency has been proved in the capable manner in which a growing school population has been received, accommodated, well graded and in all respects well provided for.

At the present time there are eight public schools, one High School, one Separate School, one Academy and three business colleges in the city of Medicine Hat. Attending these schools and colleges are well over 2,000 pupils.

The lively interest which the citizens of Medicine Hat take in school matters is strikingly manifest in the willingness of many of the most capable of their number to serve in the interests of education as members of the Board of Public School Trustees.



An up-to-date School  
Room in a Medicine  
Hat School

# Religion

Citizens are proud of the commercial and educational institutions of Medicine Hat, but the religious needs of the community have not been neglected. All Christian denominations are well represented and

the city possesses a number of imposing church edifices. Among the denominations are Anglican, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, United Church, Baptist, Christian Science and Lutheran.



St. Patrick's Roman  
Catholic Church

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## Technical Courses Offered in Medicine Hat Schools

The students of Medicine Hat and district are fortunate in having a wide scope of technical electives offered in the curriculum. Elementary instruction in such shop subjects as wood, metal, leatherwork is offered to the intermediate grades at Toronto St. School. High School shop electives including agriculture is offered at the High School Annex. Students are allowed to enroll in one or two courses each carrying eight credits towards his High School diploma. The courses offered this year include Wood 1, 2, and 3, Auto 1, El. 1, Metals 1, Agriculture 1 (including Animal Science 1, Plant Science 1). Practical project work in Agriculture is carried on at the former P.O.W. camp.

Instruction in Home Economics for girls parallels the courses offered for boys. All instruction is given at Toronto St. School and includes Home Economics for intermediate grades, and for the High School, Home-making 1, Fabrics and Dress 1, 2 and 3.

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Connaught School



# *A City of Beautiful Homes*

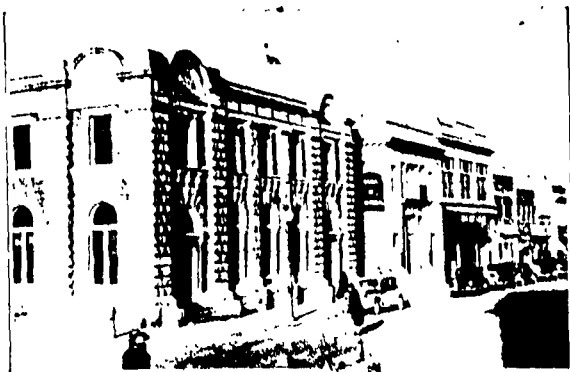




A Modern Kitchen

South Saskatchewan River in centre of the City





Post Office

## *Shopping*

The reliable and progressive spirit of the Medicine Hat business section is best shown in the fact that a number of concerns have been doing business continuously

for upwards of a quarter of a century, and are still foremost in the mercantile field.

The paramount feature of the local business section is its square, compact shape, bringing all establishments within easy walking distance. This, along with its paved, well-lighted streets, makes shopping a pleasure in Medicine Hat.

Besides the business area in the centre of the city there are some blocks of neighborhood business concerns on the hill and on the flats north of the railroad. These various sections include about

Interior views of spacious main floor



## *Section*

300 retail business houses including large and modern departmental stores.

Four banks, along with their clearing house, serve the citizens and business houses. They are all located in the down-town area.

The wholesale distribution is handled by four large warehouses who handle a variety of merchandise, including the produce of our many truck gardens in the city.

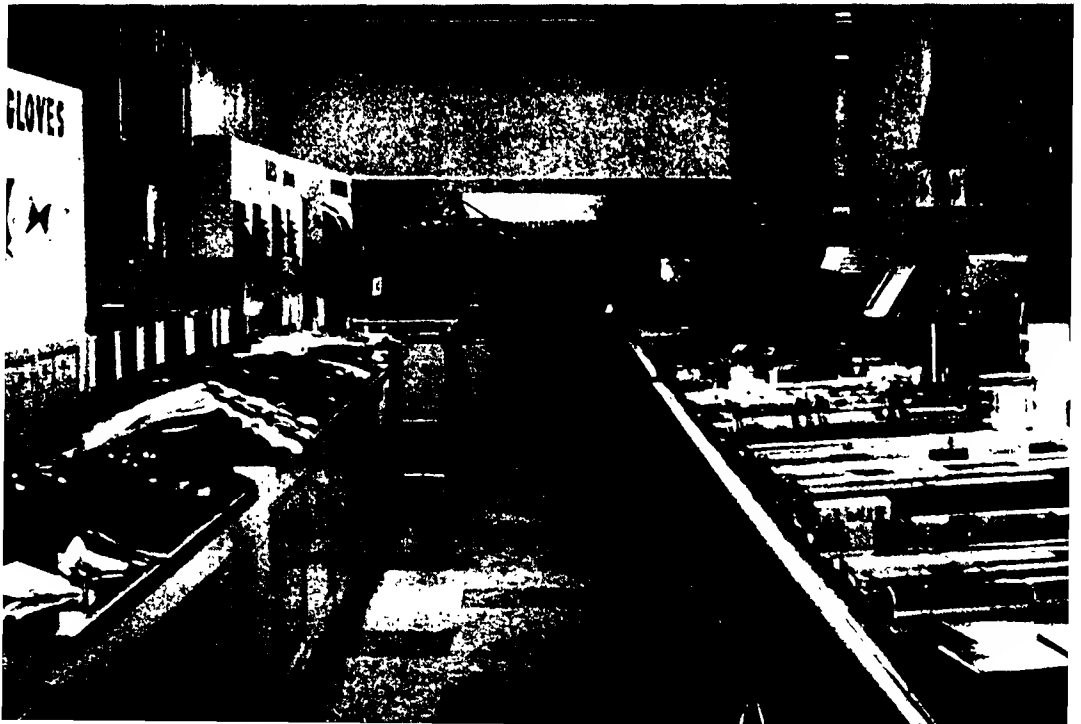
A large, centrally-located market square is the gathering place of the rural population who come from a radius of 75 miles from Medicine Hat for the Friday market days. Stalls for the disposal of their produce and other conveniences have made this a welcome meeting place.



City Hall

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of one of Medicine Hat's departmental stores



## *Sports and Recreation . . .*

It can be confidently assumed that there is not a community across the country, be it a mighty metropolis or just a tiny whistle stop inconspicuously located along Canada's broad expanse of interlocking railroads, but what can point with gratifying pride and pleasure to some form of accomplishment in providing facilities for sport, recreation or other forms of entertainment . . . In this respect Medicine Hat is handsomely equipped.

The city possesses a modern artificial ice arena which is in operation six months of the year, while other accommodations for skating and hockey are provided by nine natural ice rinks conveniently located throughout the city . . . A spacious curling rink offers enthusiasts of the roaring game an opportunity to display their prowess with besom and stane . . . Indoor bowlers are provided with 18 alleys on which to exhibit their proficiency . . . Facilities for basketball are made available in the high school auditorium; while the many hills surrounding the city leave nothing to be desired by ski enthusiasts.

Summer sports and recreation are well provided for by two splendid golf courses; two tennis courts; numerous lawn bowling greens; two fully-equipped swimming pools; kiddies' paddling pools, and an Athletic Park which is well on the way to becoming second to none in the west.

All these sports and recreational facilities in addition to three theatres and a number of dance halls provide the population of Medicine Hat and district with a wide and diversified variety of activity and entertainment the year around.





## *Hunting and Fishing*

Medicine Hat, in the province of Alberta, situated at the junction of the Trans-Canada highway with No. 3 highway to Lethbridge and Macleod, and on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, 35 miles west of the Alberta-Saskatchewan boundary, is an ideal centre from which to reach the finest upland and migratory bird shooting in Western Canada. With its excellent hotels and modernized auto and trailer camps, the hunter is assured of comfortable quarters under all weather conditions.

North of the city at the junction of the Red Deer river with the South Saskatchewan, the hunter will find large concentrations of Canada geese and with normal moisture, Medicine Hat is the centre of the finest duck shooting to be found anywhere on the continent.

If upland birds are sought, this city is within one and one-half hours' drive, over an all-weather highway, of the three main irrigation projects in South Eastern Alberta. Here is an abundance of Hungarian partridge and ring-necked pheasants with an evening's grain field shoot of mallards for good measure. In the sand-hills north of the city pinated grouse (prairie chicken) are quite plentiful.

Should larger game be desired, thousands of antelope (prong horns) roam the southeastern prairies, and again the hunter, making his headquarters in Medicine Hat, is ideally located within easy reach of these wonderful game animals. There are large numbers of mule deer in the Cypress Hills and adjacent ranches, south of the city, but at the present time the Government game department has placed a closed season on these animals.

The disciples of Isaac Walton, too, will find plenty of action in the natural and artificial lakes surrounding the city, of which Elkwater and Newell are the largest, within an hour's drive of the city.

Perch and pike abound in Elkwater lake, according to a recent Government fish survey, and a very large number of pike is taken from Newell. Pickerel (wall-eyed pike), goldeyes, pike and ling are found in goodly numbers in the South Saskatchewan river and trout are taken from the waters of the Cypress Hills, providing in all an abundance of fishing for the wielder of rod and reel.





# Facts ...

## POPULATION

The city of Medicine Hat, situated on the banks of the South Saskatchewan river, offers untold opportunities for the development of new industries, and good comfortable living conditions at perhaps the lowest cost of living index in Western Canada.

The Medicine Hat News gives both a daily and weekly newspaper service with circulation of 3,900. There is also a new modern radio station, CHAT, operating on a frequency of 1270 k.c.

To prove that Medicine Hat is progressing and attracting new people, the population figures should prove interesting:

Population 1940—9,592.

Population 1947—13,414.

## LABOUR

Medicine Hat and district are served by a local office of the National Employment Service, a service that affords Dominion-wide assistance in obtaining employment. The service is set up under the Unemployment Insurance Act, Dominion of Canada, and during periods of unemployment workers may use it to file claims for insurance benefits.

Medicine Hat is an industrial centre and there are approximately four thousand workers in the various industries and places of business.

Fuel problems in other districts affect full time employment but that factor is eliminated in Medicine Hat through the use of natural gas and as the result workers are assured of full time employment in our industries.

Seasonal work projects require extra labor and the records show that up to November 30th, 1947, 7,000 persons were issued insurance books for the current year. There is an additional 2,000 engaged in non-insurable employment, or a total working population of 9,000 in the Medicine Hat district.

## INCREASE IN BUILDING

Some interesting facts are herein listed, showing the building activity in Medicine Hat during the last seven years:

1940, \$29,000; 1941, \$240,000; 1942, \$172,000; 1943, \$231,000; 1944, \$331,000; 1945, \$406,000; 1946, \$827,000; 1947, \$1,005,000. Besides this, 150 wartime houses have been built, at a value of \$600,000.

There are about 30 miles of paved streets in the city, two beautiful parks, two modern swimming pools, and a new modern baseball and rugby park.

City owned utilities, including abundant supplies of natural gas, water and electricity, make Medicine Hat the most promising "city of the future" in the west.





## THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

Medicine Hat is the centre of a large area of fine farms and the largest ranches in the British Empire. Many extra hours of sunshine during the long frost free growing season combine with the fertile soil to give profitable returns to gardening and ranching.



ENQUIRIES INVITED - - - - FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE

**MEDICINE HAT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

ALDERMAN S. F. SCOTT - CHAIRMAN

**P.O. BOX 330 - MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA**

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